

Listing of Claims

1-5. (cancelled)

6. (new) A method of inhibiting membrane fusion between HIV and a target cell or between an HIV-infected cell and a CD4 positive uninfected cell comprising contacting the target or CD4 positive cell with a fusion-inhibiting effective amount of a CCR5 binding or blocking agent.

7. (new) The method of claim 6, wherein the agent is an anti-CCR5 antibody or epitope binding fragment thereof.

8. (new) The method of claim 7, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody or a polyclonal antibody.

9. (new) The method of claim 6, wherein the contacting is by *in vivo* administration to a subject.

10. (new) The method of claim 7, wherein the anti-CCR5 antibody is administered by intravenous, intra-muscular or subcutaneous injections.

11. (new) The method of claim 9, wherein the anti-CCR5 antibody is administered within a dose range of 0.1 µg/kg to 100 mg/kg.

12. (new) The method of claim 10, wherein the antibody is formulated in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

13. (new) A method for identifying a compound which binds to CCR5 polypeptide comprising:

a) incubating components comprising the compound and CCR5 polypeptide under conditions sufficient to allow the components to interact; and

b) measuring the binding of the compound to CCR5 polypeptide.

14. (new) The method of claim 13, wherein the compound is a peptide.

15. (new) The method of claim 13, wherein the compound is a peptidomimetic.

16. (new) The method of claim 13, wherein the CCR5 polypeptide is expressed in a cell.

17. (new) The method of claim 16, wherein the cell is a recombinant cell line that expresses CCR5 polypeptide.

18. (new) A method of treating a subject having an HIV-related disorder associated with expression of CCR5 comprising administering to an HIV infected or susceptible cell of the subject, an agent that suppresses CCR5.

19. (new) The method of claim 18, wherein the agent is an anti-CCR5 antibody.

20. (new) The method of claim 18, wherein the agent is an antisense nucleic acid that hybridizes to a CCR5 nucleic acid.

21. (new) The method of claim 18, wherein the agent is introduced into the cell using a carrier.

22. (new) The method of claim 18, wherein the carrier is a vector.

23. (new) The method of claim 18, wherein the administering is *ex vivo*.

24. (new) The method of claim 18, wherein the administering is *in vivo*.